

*In 1988, the Trinidadian calypsonian David M. Rudder composed "Haiti," which was inspired by C. L. R. James's The Black Jacobins and performed at James's funeral in Tunapuna in 1989.*

## VERSE 1

Toussaint was a mighty man  
And to make matters worse he was black  
Black and back in the days when black men knew  
Their place was in the back  
But this rebel still walked through Napoleon  
Who thought it wasn't very nice  
And so today my brothers in Haiti  
They still pay the price.

## CHORUS

Yeah, Yeah,  
Haiti I'm sorry  
We misunderstood you  
One day we'll turn our heads  
And look inside you  
Haiti, I'm sorry  
Haiti, I'm sorry  
One day we'll turn our heads  
Restore your glory.

VERSE 2

Many hands reach out to St. Georges  
And are still reaching out  
To those frightened  
Foolish men of Pretoria  
We still scream and shout  
We came together in song  
To steady the Horn of Africa  
But the papaloo come and the babyloo go  
And still, we don't seem to care.

VERSE 3

When there is anguish in Port au Prince  
It's still Africa crying  
We are outing fires in far away places  
When our neighbours are just burning  
They say the middle passage is gone  
So how come  
Overcrowded boats still haunt our lives  
I refuse to believe that we good people  
Would forever turn our hearts  
And our eyes . . . away.